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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS AND RADIO NEWS BRIEFING, WEDNESDAY,
October 3, 1962, 12:30 p.m. EDT

MR. WHITE: Gentlemen, as I did yesterday, I would like to open up this briefing with Dick Phillips to give you a rundown on a background basis of this morning's meeting of the Foreign Ministers.

Q All right.

MR. PHILLIPS: The speakers so far this morning have been in this order: El Salvador, Venezuela, Mexico, and, when I left, the Peruvian was speaking. That leaves to be heard from: Brazil, Bolivia, Haiti, and Chile.

The only thing that I can tell you of what went on in the chamber was that on opening the meeting the Secretary gave them the latest reading on the astronaut, and on introducing or giving the floor to the Mexican representative he called the attention of the Foreign Ministers to the forthcoming trip tomorrow of the Mexican President and Foreign Minister to the Far East, assured the mission of the very best wishes of our Government for a safe and successful trip, and this was joined in by the other representatives present.

MR. WHITE: Thank you, Dick.

Q Dick, before you go away, could we try to get

some line on when, if ever, we are going to get anything out of this?

MR. PHILLIPS: You mean in the way of a communique?

A Well, whatever is to be said at the close.

MR. PHILLIPS: Well, they are scheduled to meet this afternoon, after their luncheon at the Pan American Union. At what time that meeting will end, I have no idea.

Q Do you expect a communique?

MR. PHILLIPS: Possibly.

Q But the afternoon starts at 3:30?

MR. PHILLIPS: 3:00 is the scheduled time, yes.

Q Then another question.

MR. PHILLIPS: It was scheduled to start at 10:00 this morning, and started at 10:30.

Q Did you mention a time for the communique, Dick?

MR. PHILLIPS: No. At Linc's suggestion I will plan to meet with you up here when the session is over this afternoon.

Q That means ~~that~~ you will have the communique with you, if there is one?

MR. PHILLIPS: Whenever it is over, I will come up.

[Mr. Phillips left the briefing room at this point.]

MR. WHITE: Gentlemen, for the benefit of those

who were not over earlier this morning, we released, as was released on the Hill, the statement by the Honorable George W. Ball, Under Secretary of State, before the Select Committee on Export Control of the House of Representatives. You should all have copies of that.

Charles E. Bohlen was sworn in at 9:15 this morning as United States Ambassador to France. A private ceremony was conducted in the Office of the Secretary. Those in attendance were the Secretary, Ambassador and Mrs. Bohlen, and the Chief of Protocol, Ambassador Angier Biddle Duke, who administered the oath of office. Ambassador Bohlen intends to depart for his post aboard the U. S. S. United States on October 19. He will arrive in Paris October 24. We will have the usual follow-up press release later this afternoon.

In connection with the meeting of the Foreign Ministers, we have available reading copies of the toast offered by Secretary Rusk at the dinner for them last night. For those of you who are interested, you may use direct quotes.

That is all I have, gentlemen.

Q Linc, what are the arrangements so far on the next meeting between the Secretary and Mr. Gromyko in New York?

A I, again, am right where I was yesterday. As

I say, I think this will be the latter part of the week, but I ^{can} ~~am~~ ^{be} not specific on that. Therefore, I am not in a position to say definitively at this stage.

Q Linc, I was not here yesterday, but I saw the transcript about the Johnson proposals on the Arab refugees. There was one thing that was not clear to me. What is the attitude of the United States' State Department towards those proposals? Is State Department supporting those proposals, or what?

A The only thing I can say to you now is what I said yesterday, namely that I have no comment on this. The fact that the United States, being a member of this commission, authorized Dr. Johnson to undertake these talks, and so on, indicates certainly that we have no objections to them.

Q To the proposals?

A That is right.

Q Mr. White, at the opening of the Foreign Ministers conference it was stated, and I quote this exactly, "but that no concrete measures would be discussed at this meeting." Mr. Ball's statement that was released today, on page 10, says that Secretary Rusk is consulting today with the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of American States with regard to these measures--and the phrase "these measures" apparently refers to several additional measures

designed to impose restrictions on the availability of shipping to Cuba.

A Yes. This--

Q Which?

A This I think, if you will forgive me--I have not had a chance to read what Mr. Ball has to say here, but these refer to actions on the part of the United States Government.

Q Linc, coming back for a minute to these Israeli-Arabs and Dr. Johnson, the paper, the newspaper yesterday which printed the Johnson plan or proposals--can you say whether this published version was correct?

A My understanding is that this was a correct version; yes.

Q Thank you very much, Mr. White.

A You are very welcome.

[Whereupon, at 12:40 p.m., the press briefing was concluded.]

LINCOLN WHITE